

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record fails to teach or reasonably suggest: an implantable medical device including a connector bore comprising one or more conductive connector block portions along an inner surface, a single lead connector including a plurality of lead connector elements electrically isolated from one another and spaced apart along the single lead connector, a plurality of elongated insulated conductors, a plurality of lead electrodes where each electrode is coupled to a corresponding lead connector element via the plurality of elongated insulated conductors, and a set of adapters where each adapter is configured to be used separately from one another to electrically connect the single lead connector to the implantable medical device. Furthermore, the set of adapters comprise a first and second adapter. A first adapter having an external surface to engage the inner surface of the connector bore, wherein the external surface comprises one or more conductive portions to electrically engage the one or more conductive connector block portions of the connector bore of the implantable medical device, an internal surface forming a lumen to receive the single lead connector with electrically isolative material defining at least a portion of the internal surface, and one or more electrical contact elements wherein each electrical contact element is electrically coupled to a corresponding conductive portion of the one or more conductive portions of the external surface. Also one or more electrical contact elements are positioned along the internal surface and are electrically isolated from each other, wherein each of the one or more electrical

contact elements is electrically coupled with one of the lead connector elements of the plurality of lead connector elements when the single lead connector is received within the lumen. The second adapter includes an external surface to engage the inner surface of the connector bore wherein the external surface comprises one or more conductive portions to electrically engage the one or more conductive connector block portions of the connector bore of the implantable medical device, an internal surface forming a lumen to receive the single lead connector electrically isolative material defining at least a portion of the internal surface, and one or more electrical contact elements wherein each electrical contact element is electrically coupled to a corresponding conductive portion of the external surface. Additionally, one or more electrical contacts are positioned along the internal surface and are electrically isolated from each other and electrically coupled with one of the lead connector elements of the plurality of lead connector elements when the single lead connector is received within the lumen. Further, one or more conductive portions of the external surface of the first adapter that are electrically coupled to the one or more electrical contact elements of the first adapter are located in the same location along the external surface thereof as the one or more conductive portions of the external surface of the second adapter that are electrically coupled to the one or more electrical contact elements of the second adapter, wherein at least one electrical contact element of the one or more electrical contact elements of the first adapter is located in a different location along the internal surface thereof than the one or more electrical contact elements of the second adapter, wherein at least a portion of the electrically isolative material of the first adapter is

located in the same location along the internal surface thereof as at least one of the one or more electrical contact elements of the second adapter, and further wherein at least a portion of the electrically isolative material of the second adapter is located in the same location along the internal surface thereof as at least one of the one or more electrical contact elements of the first adapter, in combination with the other elements in the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ALYSSA M. ALTER whose telephone number is (571)272-4939. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8am to 4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Niketa Patel can be reached on (571) 272-4156. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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